

Meeting of Governor's Commission on Suicide Prevention

Monday, March 19, 2018, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, MD

Commission Members Present:

Kenneth Collins	Maryland Addictions Directors Council
Christina Drushel-Williams	Governor's Office for Children
Kirsten Robb-McGrath	Maryland Department of Disabilities
Stephen Goldberg, MD	Public Health Services
Dana Stacey Hendrickson	Department of Veterans Affairs
Michael Ito, Psy.D.	Department of Juvenile Services
Shenetta Malkia-Sapp	Suicide Prevention Group
Jennifer McMahan	Department of Health
Deborah Nelson, PhD	Maryland State Department of Education
Randall Nero, PhD	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Robert Tousey, MBA, JD	Chair & Faith-based Community
Jari Villanueva	Veteran

Commission Members on Phone:

Gregory Branch, MD, MBA, CPE	Local Health Officer
Amanda Celentano	Maryland Department of Aging
Jennilyn Babcock Landleck	Family Member
William Powell	National Organization for People of Color Against Suicide

Maryland Department of Health & Behavioral Health Administration Staff:

Kimberly Hiner	Maryland Department of Health, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (Commission Staff)
Shervon Desmond	Maryland Department of Health, Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (Intern)

Public Attendees:

Lorraine Helferich	Every Mind
Larry Kimble	MDTA
Ben Brauer	Allegany County Public Schools
Joy Ashcraft	MDARNG SAP
Jarrell Pipkin	Beacon Health Options
Mike Clancy	MD
Kelley Flanders	Volunteer
Kristen Rose	Beacon
Joyce May	Frederick County Health Dept., Behavioral Health Div.
Tom Sloane	University of Maryland Baltimore
Lamont Coger	APG, Suicide Prevention
Mark Bailey	Suicide Prevention

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chairman Tousey welcomed all attendees to the Commission meeting. All meeting attendees, both in person and on the phone, introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes:

January 22, 2018 minutes were approved.

Suicide Prevention Month 2018 Location Discussion:

A discussion was held regarding the location of the September 2018, Suicide Prevention Month meeting location. It was decided not to hold the meeting on the Eastern Shore and host it in a more central location.

Legislative Update:

Two bills were initiated during Maryland's 2018 Legislative Session:

Senate Bill 66, Health – Vital Statistics – Veteran and Armed Services Member Suicide Reporting

Senate Bill 911, Veteran Suicide Prevention - Comprehensive Action Plan. The bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to create a 10-year plan. No staffing or funding is provided to complete.

Commissioner Hendrickson: Community Partners expressed some concern regarding the implementation and amendments that was introduced that would shift the plans over to the health department.

A similar bill passed this past September in Texas

Crisis Response Update:

Dr. Ben Brauer from Allegany County Public Schools provided an overview of the county is doing to respond to recent suicides. Dr. Brauer reported that the public schools and community have experienced three suicides over the last 11 months. The school has crisis programs established and have held a community forum at a local church. There are resources at the schools to provide mental health resources and workshops. Raising awareness on mental health and services have been ongoing. The community has been excellent in getting the word spread, as well. Many meetings have been student organized and lead. There is another meeting scheduled on 3/20.

An area of concern is coordinating efforts to connect individuals to resources due to the physical distance to inpatient treatment - approx. 1-hour drive.

Commissioner Drushel-Williams representing the Governor's Office for Children shared the "On Our Own of Maryland," initiative that focuses on reducing stigma around young people with substance abuse and mental health. It teaches young people how to recognize stigma.

Commissioner Goldberg representing Public Health Services spoke about prevention/trigger suicide risk reduction. Not just identifying those who are suicidal but overall reducing risk. Universal precautions.

Tom Sloan representing the University of Maryland Baltimore, highlighted the "Cognito" program as a proactive program heightening awareness about Suicide Prevention. A virtual town hall is being held on 3/29. Flyers were distributed.

Commissioner Nelson representing the Department of Education discussed regulations that will require any staff person of training in suicide awareness and resources. The Department is put together a resource guide that has evidence-based programs.

Task Force, Executive Order, Plan and Bylaws Discussion:

Task Forces:

- A discussion took place of combining certain task forces including Veterans, justice involved, etc. There was some concern over this suggested and it was agreed that it would be reviewed further and discussed at a later time.
- Commissioner Hendrickson requested to be removed from the Individuals in the Justice System task force
- A suggestion was made that the Task Force be open general population and it not be limited to members of commissions
- A suggestion was made to change "School Aged" to "Transitioning Youth and Young Adults (up to 25yrs old)"
- A discussion of appointing and designating individuals to run the task forces. This process could be clarified in the bylaws that the Commission plans to draft.

Executive Order:

- Chairman Tousey suggested changing the term from 3 to 4 terms or No term limitation
- Adding college aged students to the commission help run the programs and groups
- Suggestion that a secretary could be elected to assist in carrying out tasks if Bob or Kim are not available. This could also be clarified in the bylaws.

Next Commission Meeting:

The May 21st, 2018 will be a working meeting and the meeting will be at Spring Grove. Document drafts will be provided and discussed.

- Suicide Prevention Plan: Janelle will take the lead in the Plan revision process. Draft of plan will be sent out to commissioner for review once it is available.

Beacon Health Presentation:

Presenters:

Jarrell Pipkin, JD, LPC, Quality Director

Kristen Rose, LCSW-C, Quality Specialist

Beacon discussed the increase in suicide over the past 15 years, understanding that it is important to decrease this number is important. Beacon believes that suicidal behavior disorder is a treatable condition, rather than being a side effect of depression or any other underlying mental health problem.

Because most behavioral health clinicians have never received formal training on treatment and ways to identify suicide signs, some patients are being missed. Because of this lack of knowledge, ineffective or harmful practices that can increase suicide risk are rooted in persistent myths and old habits, such as the frequent practice of involuntary inpatient hospitalization or the use of “no suicide” contracts.

- Introduction
- The Zero Suicide Model
- Overview of the Beacon Provider Training Tool
 - Assessment and Screening
 - Treatment
- Resources
- Activities Beacon Implements
- Additional resources

Beacon offers Provider training. They believe in a community approach, clinician vs. non-Clinical, both need to be well versed for change to take place.

Voting:

- September meeting will take place at a central location – Governor’s Coordinating Offices at Community Place

Meeting adjourned at 2:54pm